

Rambo, Macca, Ozzy and Taylor up for grabs

14/03/03



Out: Andy Rammell



Out: Paul McCarthy



Out: Mark Osborn



Free to leave: Martin Taylor

Boss clears the decks

DAVE PETERS

FOOTBALL

WANDERERS stars Andy Rammell and Paul McCarthy are being released in manager Lawrie Sanchez's spring cull.

They have been told their contracts won't be renewed at the end of the season as Wanderers look to cut £250,000 off their wage bill.

Goalkeeper and three-times Player of The Year Martin Taylor has also been told he can look for another club even though he has got a year still to run on his deal.

Taylor has been told that Frank Talia is now the club's number one choice keeper and advised that Wycombe won't stand in his way if he wants to fix himself up with a new club.

Rookie glovesman Mark Osborn has also been shown the exit this week. He joins youngsters Ben Townsend, Pat Lynott, Jack Smillie and Ryan Parsons who were told their time was up earlier this year.

Sanchez said: "I wish them all the best but unfortunately time moves on in football.

"One of my major faults is that perhaps I haven't had a big enough changeover of players in my time here. We saw last Saturday [beating Brentford 4-0] what having a bit of youth can do.

"It's going to be youth and it is

going to be cheaper next year. Rams and Macca were unfortunate that their contracts are up this year and we're releasing them because of financial constraints.

"When you're having to make cuts you look at the people whose contracts are running out and see if you can do without them.

"I've had to cut £250,000 and the easiest way of doing that is by losing some of the higher earners."

And he paid tribute to the pair.

He said: "They've been a pleasure to work with and have been excellent servants for the club."

McCarthy and Rammell will go down in history as two of the best signings Wycombe have made.

Macca was plucked from Brighton by Alan Smith in 1997 and has gone on to make 245 appearances for the club.

He was a star of Blues' FA Cup run two years as Wanderers went all the way to the semi-final.

He started this season as captain but lost his place over New Year.

Sanchez signed Rammell from Walsall for £75,000 three years ago and the battering-ram striker

has repaid the fee with 31 goals in 87 appearances.

But he has been dogged by injuries this season and hasn't featured since December.

Keeper Taylor could follow them out of the door. He has asked Sanchez for permission to talk to other clubs after losing his number one crown.

Sanchez said: "He asked me if he can talk to other clubs and I've told him that if he can find something he should come back to me and talk.

"I understand his frustration. He's done exceptionally well for the club but the situation has changed and we've got to change with the times. He's no longer regarded as the number one keeper.

"But I'm not going to rush him out of the club. If we have two keepers vying for the position next season it's all good for us.

"The ball is in his court. In an ideal world, I'd have two top class keepers but it is an expensive position to cover and if Martin wants to go and finds himself something else, I'd have to weigh it up. If he wants to stay that's fine."

Before this season Taylor had only missed a handful of games but injury has caught up with him and Talia has seized the opportunity.



Roll Call: Lawrie Sanchez has trimmed his squad